

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08
NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04
SIL-01 L-03 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 IGA-02 OES-06 AGRE-00
DLOS-06 SAL-01 /110 W
-----071809Z 059138 /43

R 071749Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6231

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, XP, TN, GW

SUBJ: FRG AID TO SOUTH PACIFIC

REF: (A) 76 STATE 311415, (B) 76 BONN 17976,
(C) STATE 40214, (D) WELLINGTON 624,
(E) STATE 45880

1. SUMMARY: FRG ECONCOOP TEAM VISIT SIGNALS AN FRG
EFFORT TO EXPAND MODERATELY ITS AID PROGRAM IN THE
PACIFIC. PREVIOUS AID PROGRAMS WERE CONFINED TO A SMALL
TECHNICAL AID PROJECT IN WESTERN SAMOA AND SOME
REGIONAL PROJECTS. PRESENT PLANS ENVISION INCREASED
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AID TO TONGA AND WESTERN SAMOA AND THE FIRST STEPS IN
PAPUA/NEW GUINEA. END SUMMARY.

2. FRG TEAM IS LEAD BY MR. HANSEN, OFFICE DIRECTOR
FOR SE ASIA IN COOPMIN, AND INCLUDES A PLANT PROTECTION
AND A FISHERIES TECHNICAL AID EXPERT. HANSEN SHOULD
BE IN WELLINGTON AND CANBERRA BETWEEN MARCH 15 AND 18,

AND HE PLANS TO LEAVE VIA MANILA ON 19 MARCH.

3. FOLLOWING IS A RUNDOWN OF FRG 1977 AID COMMITMENT PLANS FOR THE AREA. FRG PLANS, HOWEVER, ARE NOT YET FIRMLY ESTABLISHED, SINCE GOVERNMENT DISCUSSIONS REGARDING THE BREAKDOWN OF THE AID BUDGET ARE STILL GOING ON. (\$1 DM 2.39)

A. TONGA:

TONGANS PROPOSED A DM 40 MILLION AIRPORT PROJECT DURING THEIR 1976 VISIT TO BONN, BUT FRG PLANS AN APPROXIMATELY DM 5 MILLION PROJECT TO UPGRADE LIGHTING, CONTROL AND RUNWAY FACILITIES. THE RESULTS OF AN AUSTRALIAN FEASIBILITY STUDY AND THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS WILL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF FRG AID. FRG COMMITMENT, WHEN MADE, WILL COVER GERMAN CAPITAL AID INTENTIONS FOR THE NEXT 2-3 YEARS. COOPMIN FORESEES A DM 1.9 MILLION TECHNICAL AID COMMITMENT CONCENTRATING ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERY PROJECTS.

B. FIJI:

FIJI IS A LOW PRIORITY AREA FOR THE FRG, SINCE PER CAPITA INCOME IS HIGH THERE AND TIES TO GREAT BRITAIN ARE STRONG.

C. WESTERN SAMOA:

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COOPMIN IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN SAMOAN "INDUSTRIAL ESTATE" PROPOSAL AND MAY COMMIT DM 2.5 MILLION TO THE PROJECT IF IT PROVES FEASIBLE. THE

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PROPOSAL INVOLVES THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FOOD PROCESSING
INDUSTRY. DEPENDING ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND FEASIBILITY
OF OTHER PROJECTS, THE COOPMIN MAY ALSO COMMIT DM 2.5
MILLION IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, PROBABLY IN THE AREA
OF PLANT PROTECTION AND FISHING.

D. PAPUA/NEW GUINEA:

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE ONLY ESTABLISHED IN AUGUST,
1976, SO THE COOPMIN IS ONLY NOW LOOKING TOWARD THE
FIRST BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH P/NG. COOPMIN LACKS
INFORMATION, BUT BELIEVES THAT INITIAL GERMAN AID WILL
BE IN THE FORM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN RESOURCE
EXTRACTION.

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4. COOPMIN COMPLAINED ABOUT THE AID IMPLEMENTATION
PROBLEMS CAUSED BY RELIANCE ON FAR-REMOVED WELLINGTON
AND CANBERRA. HANSEN'S TEAM WILL ACTIVELY SEEK
OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
ADB, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY REP IN SUVA (GLASS). COOPMIN ALSO EXPRESSED
GREAT INTEREST IN U.S. AID PROGRAMS AND FUTURE
COOPERATION.

5. COMMENT: FRG IS REACTING TO INCREASED SOVIET
ACTIVITY IN THE AREA AND TO WHAT THE COOPMIN DESCRIBES
AS "THE INCREASING ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF THE AREA".
AMOUNT OF MONEY INVOLVED IS SMALL, HOWEVER, AND FONOFF

EMPHASIZES THAT GERMAN PLANS ARE VERY MODEST.
CASH

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